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China, Peoples Republic of

Poultry and Products

China Resumes Imports of Live Poultry and Poultry Products from the United States

2004

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Report Highlights:

On December 27, 2004, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), the Customs General Administration and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) jointly announced resumption of imports of live poultry and poultry products from the United States, except for Connecticut and Rhode Island. The announcement requested local Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureaus to resume inspection and quarantine upon application, and requested China Customs to accept customs declaration of imported live poultry and poultry products from the United States as of the date of the announcement.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
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Executive Summary

On December 27, 2004, the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA), the Customs General Administration and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine (AQSIQ) jointly announced immediate resumption of imports of live poultry and poultry products from the United States; the import ban remain in place, however, for the states of Connecticut and Rhode Island. The announcement acknowledges that the United States has complied with OIE's requirements for a country free of highly-pathogenic avian influenza (AI). Imports of all U.S. poultry had been banned since February, 2004, following reports of cases AI.

Although MOA and AQSIQ jointly announced a lifting of the import ban on U.S. live poultry and poultry products on November 8, 2004, actual imports could not resume until MOFCOM and the Provincial Commerce Departments resumed issuing Import Automatic Registration Certificates (IARC's).

Poultry from Connecticut and Rhode Island remains banned because of reported cases of the H7N2 strain of AI, according to Chinese government agencies. Although H7N2 is a low-pathogenic AI, there are reports of this strain of AI turning into highly-pathogenic AI in North America. Chinese officials have claimed that China, as well as Asia, never have had H7N2 AI.

Following is an unofficial translation of China's announcement resuming imports of live poultry and poultry products from the United States:

**No. 83 Joint Announcement By
The Ministry of Commerce
The Ministry of Agriculture
The Customs General Administration
And
The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine
(December 27, 2004)**

According to the Law of the People's Republic of China on Foreign Trade and the Law of the People's Republic of China on Entry and Exit Animal and Plant Quarantine, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Customs General Administration and the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China here jointly announce the following based on the fact that the United States has complied with OIE's requirements for a country free of high pathogenic avian influenza.

- I. Resume imports of live poultry and poultry products from the United States (not including Connecticut State and the Rhode Island). The Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Bureaus (CIQ) shall resume inspection and quarantine, upon application, on live poultry and poultry products from the U.S. The Chinese Customs shall accept customs declaration of live poultry and poultry products from the U.S.*
- II. The various Provincial Commerce Department shall resume issuance of Poultry Automatic Import Permit.*

This announcement becomes effective on the very date of announcement.

(End of report)